

**MORRIS COUNTY**  
**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING, DISABILITIES & VETERANS**  
340 West Hanover Avenue, Ground Floor, Morris Township

Minutes, ACADV Meeting, February 24, 2014

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Richard Nyquist  
Tom Pappas  
Bernard Hayet  
Michael Vaillancourt  
Louis Valori  
Robert Hughes  
Kathy Siegrist  
Lisa Pignataro  
Bob Hughes  
Tom Clark

**STAFF PRESENT**

Theresa Davis  
Frank Pinto  
Charles Jurgensen  
Tammi Brown  
Lucy Cannizzo  
Ophelia Cruse  
Lauren Burd

**Guests**

Emil Simonetti

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 P.M. by Co-Chairperson Richard Nyquist.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and passed to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2013 meeting.

**Public Comments**

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and their affiliation.

**Staff Reports:**

**Director's Report – Theresa Davis**

- Reviewed the member packet and explained the regulations and procedures for all ACADV members.
- In 2014, the Division has become a full ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Connection) and as a result, clients will be able to understand options and receive services more quickly.
- After 6 years the Older Americans Act is up for reauthorization. The Federal Legislation authorizes each county to have an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and provides funding for the non-profit and nutrition programs. Since reauthorization had not been approved in the previous years, there had been no increases in funding.

- Ms. Davis met with an aide from Congressman Frelinghuysen's office. They are aware of the OAA Legislation and support it. Letters should be sent to the legislators with any concerns. In order to receive recognition, the letters should indicate if you are a senior, disabled or a veteran. Legislators understand that these populations are voters.

### **Department Report- Frank Pinto**

- This is the budget county season and the Freeholders are looking for a zero tax increase for 2014.
- Mr. Pinto has not heard of any cuts in programs. MAPS (Morris Area Paratransit System) are the only program experiencing a cut in funding and are trying to make up the loss in order to provide the needed level of service.
- Zufall Dental Clinic is coming to the VA. It will consist of a large van that will be parked in the parking lot and seeing veterans in need of dental services.  
On Feb 27<sup>th</sup>, a representative from Zufall will be present at the VA clinic to enable people to sign up for the March 7<sup>th</sup> dental services. Future dates to be announced.  
Zufall has many facilities throughout Morris County.

### **Office Reports:**

**ADRC- Lucy Cannizzo**

**Adult Services-Theresa Davis**

**Nutrition-Ophelia Cruse**

**Veterans- Charles Jurgensen**

**ACADV-Tammi Brown**

**Senior, Disabled Providers' Group- Theresa Davis**

Staff members read the annual report related to their area.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Legislative Review – Robert Hughes**

The Legislative Review Committee met on December 12, 2013

The members reviewed the following bills:

- Assembly Bill No. 412. Exempts senior citizens and blind or disabled persons from certain realty transfer fees.
- Assembly Bill No. 3047. Provides protections for individuals with developmental disabilities through accountability and transparency; designated as "Stephen Komminos' Law".

The Legislative Review Committee would like the endorsement of the ACADV on Assembly Bills No. 412 and 3047.

- H. R. 831. To phase out special wage certificates under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 under which individuals with disabilities may be employed at subminimum wage rates.
- Assembly Bill No. 3403. Creates Voluntary Registry for Individuals with Mental Illness or Developmental Disability.

Legislative Review made a motion to pass the approved legislation. Legislation approved.

Legislative Review does not recommend endorsement of Assembly Bill No. 831.

The ACT (Advisory Councils Together) will meet at 10:00 on February 26, 2014.

### **Planning & Program Review –**

The Planning & Program Review committee held a special meeting on January 23, 2014 and reviewed the Consumer Questionnaire that will be used to help Morris County prioritize services for seniors, people with disabilities and veterans. Questions were asked in regard to the type of

services that are administered by the providers. The survey will now be sent to providers, who will distribute to their clients.

## **Community Relations – No report**

### **Human Services Advisory Council-**

- The New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency report a great deal of concern over human trafficking in the New Jersey/New York area. Human trafficking often involves forcing people into prostitution or labor to pay their debt for being brought to America. The Attorney General is providing presentations during school assemblies, entitled "Say Something." Morris County schools are posting fliers and posters to raise student awareness.
- A plan was submitted on behalf of the HSAC to Luther Owens, Dept. of Children and Families, Trenton, to address needs of the homeless youth in the community. The plan of action submitted supports Morris County's human service system of care. All objectives are targeted for completion by end of 2014.

### **MCCoOPO- Richard Nyquist**

- Nov 2013, a nurse made a presentation on quilts; the quilts gave pictorial hints on how slaves escaped from underground railroads to Canada.
- January 2014, the NJ chairman of Medicare Senior Patrol spoke on Medicare fraud. It was stated that 10% of drugs made overseas can be counterfeit. If you find the drug to be different in size, color, or has a bad odor and is not effective, it may be counterfeit. And always count your pills. If you encounter a problem, you can report it to the pharmacist where you purchased the prescription and/or the FDA (Food and Drug Administration).
- Feb 2014, Chairman from The Morris County Funeral Director's Association spoke on planning with your family and loved ones to overcome the burden.

### **Providers- No report**

### **Announcement-**

- Bernard Hayet stated that Charles Jurgensen will do a presentation at Meadow Lake Temple on March 9<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30. The presentation will include discussion on present and past veterans of foreign wars.

**Adjournment** – A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 3, 2014.